From:	RJZawadzki
To:	HSSframework
Subject:	Comments on Draft History-Social Science Framework
Date:	Tuesday, November 25, 2014 5:38:25 PM

History-Social Science Subject Matter Committee
Instructional Quality Commission
California Department of Education

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Polish American Defense Committee, established in 1976, is grateful for the opportunity to submit comments on the draft of the History Social-Science Framework. Certain people and events in Polish history had a significant impact outside of Poland. Furthermore, the framework recognizes that, "California has always been a state of many different cultural groups, just as the United States has always been a nation of many different cultural groups. The experiences of all these groups are to be integrated at every grade level in the history–social science curriculum." Draft, p. 8. Indeed, "It is important for students to see examples of members from their own cultural, ethnic, and even linguistic backgrounds in the classroom materials that they use on a regular basis." Draft, p. 437.

There are about 10 million Americans of Polish ancestry, of which about 490,000 live in California.
https://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2012/tables/12s0052.pdf
http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/c2kprof00-ca.pdf

First, we propose changes to specific parts of the framework, and then a list of proposed topics to be added to the framework where appropriate.

Sincerely,

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SPECIFIC CHANGES

CHAPTER 2: GOALS AND CURRICULUM STRANDS

1. page 18, line 136: add "such as Irena Sendler" in: "those who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust, such as Irena Sendler;"

Irena Sendler smuggled 2,500 Jewish children out of the ghetto created by the Germans in Warsaw, despite the decree of death for Poles helping Jews. She was in Zegota, a secret organization of the Polish government-in-exile to help Jews, the only such organization in occupied Europe.
http://www.ushmm.org/information/press/in-memoriam/irena-sendler-1910-2008
http://www.pbs.org/program/irena-sendler/
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irena_Sendler
http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Holocaust/Zegota.html

CHAPTER 3: COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE FIVE

2. page 72, line 654: add "Sklodowska" in: "scientists such as George Washington Carver, Marie Sklodowska Curie, Louis Pasteur,"

Marie Sklodowska was born and raised in Poland which at the time was occupied by the partitioning powers, Russia, Prussia, and Austria. At the age of 24 she went to France because the occupiers did not permit Polish women to attend university.

"While a French citizen, Marie Sklodowska Curie (she used both surnames) never lost her sense of Polish identity. She taught her daughters the Polish language and took them on visits to Poland. She named the first chemical element that she discovered – polonium, which she first isolated in 1898 – after her native country." She signed her name, "Sklodowska Curie."
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marie_Curie

"Sklodowska Curie" is on the cover page of her 1903 thesis and on her 1911 Nobel Prize Certificate.
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/be/Marie_Curie-Theses_1903.jpg
http://doc.med.yale.edu/library/news/exhibits/curie/curie-5.html

3. page 75, line 714 add "Sklodowska" in: "Sitting Bull, George Washington Carver, Marie Sklodowska Curie"

4. page 111, line 1495 before "Captain John Smith directed the digging . . ." insert: "The colony lacked skilled craftsmen, so Captain John Smith arranged to bring the first Poles to Jamestown in 1608; a timber man, a tar and pitch maker, a soap maker, and a glass blower. Glass making, often considered America's first industry, was the exclusive province of the Poles. In 1619, the Poles held the first labor strike in the New World."
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jamestown_Polish_craftsmen
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_strikes#Chronological_list_of_strikes
Grizzard, Frank E. and Smith, Boyd D., *Jamestown Colony: A Political, Social, and Cultural History*. ABC-CLIO, Inc., Santa Barbara, Calif., 2007, pp. 83 & 171.
http://tinyurl.com/o2638rx (p. 83)
http://tinyurl.com/qb294x6 (p. 171)

5. page 119, line 1692 after, "interests that other nations and foreign individuals had in the outcome of the war" add: "such as Generals Tadeusz Kosciuszko (fortifier of West Point) and Casimir Pulaski ('father of the American cavalry')."
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tadeusz_Ko%C5%9Bciuszko#American_Revolutionary_War
http://www.nps.gov/thko/index.htm
http://www.usma.edu/wphistory/SitePages/Home.aspx
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kosciuszko%27s_Monument_%28West_Point%29
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casimir_Pulaski
http://www.nps.gov/fopu/historyculture/casimir-pulaski.htm

CHAPTER 4: COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR GRADES SIX THROUGH EIGHT

6. page 185, line 1103 before "Western Europe remained divided" insert: "Christianity spread in Central and Eastern Europe, replacing paganism and facilitating the birth of nations such as Poland in 966."
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Poland_during_the_Piast_dynasty#10th.E2.80.9312th_century

7. page 187, line 1156 after "human reason can discover and explain." add: "For example, Nicolaus Copernicus discovered that the earth rotates around the sun, not vice versa."
http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/136591/Nicolaus-Copernicus
http://www.nmspacemuseum.org/halloffame/detail.php?id=123

8. page 204, line 1535 change as follows: "migrated into Eastern Europe, especially to Poland and Polish-controlled areas, and Russia. The Statute of Kalisz (1264) gave Jews in Poland rights that they did not have in other European countries and by the middle of the 16th century about 80% of the world's Jews

lived in Poland."
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Europe
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Jews_in_Russia#Kievan_Rus.27
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statute_of_Kalisz
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Jews_in_Poland#Center_of_the_Jewish_world:_1505.E2.80.9372
http://www.worldjewishcongress.org/en/communities/show/id/30

CHAPTER 5: COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE

9. page 301, line 1535 after "independent states emerged," insert: "including Poland which had been divided up and annexed by its neighbors, Russia, Prussia, and Austria, for over one hundred years, and whose freedom was one of President Wilson's goals in his Fourteen Points. "
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partitions_of_Poland
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourteen_Points

10. page 305, line 964 after "the famine in Ukraine that led to the starvation of millions of people;" add: "the Polish Operation in 1937-38 in which the Soviet NKVD murdered about 100,000 Poles;"
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polish_Operation_of_the_NKVD_%281937%E2%80%9338%29

11. page 306, line 993 insert "Russia" into "The expansionist goals of Italy, Germany, Russia, and Japan"
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Molotov%E2%80%93Ribbentrop_Pact

12. page 306, line 1007 insert "Russian" in "German, Russian, Italian, and Japanese attempts to expand their empires" Ibid.

13. page 309, lines 1057-63 change as follows:

"Before and during the worldwide conflict, the Nazis implemented racial policies across Nazi-controlled Europe. These policies drew upon notions of racial hierarchies, also popular among eugenicists~~. The laws singled out~~ and were aimed at Jews, Slavs, particularly Poles, ~~Gypsies~~ and the Romani, ~~and Jehovah's Witnesses, as well as homosexuals and political activists, and~~ who were targeted ~~these groups~~ for oppression and state-sanctioned violence in the concentration camps. Victim groups not based on race included the disabled, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, and those who resisted the Nazis. Jews were specifically targeted and sent to concentration camps where, under the Final Solution, some six million Jews were 1063 killed through starvation, mistreatment, and gassing."

Hitler's long-term plans were to destroy the Slavic race, close to 300,000,000 people. Fortunately, the defeat of Germany cut those plans short, but not in time to save Hitler's first Slavic victims, the Poles, from genocide.
California State Board of Education, *California Model Curriculum for Human Rights and Genocide.* California Department of Education, Sacramento, California, 1988, 2000, pp. 2, 53-54.
http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/hs/im/documents/modelcurrichrgenoc.pdf
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nazi_crimes_against_the_Polish_nation

Count Three of the Nuremberg indictment charged that the defendants, "conducted deliberate and systematic genocide, viz., the extermination of racial and national groups, against the civilian populations of certain occupied territories in order to destroy particular races and classes of people and national, racial, or religious groups, particularly Jews, Poles, and Gypsies and others."
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/imt/count3.asp

14. page 310, line 1078 after "the resistance of Jews and others to the Holocaust" add: "and the Polish Underground State and its military arm, the Home Army, larger than the organizations resisting the Germans in any other country."
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polish_Underground_State
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Home_Army

15. page 310, line 1088 insert the underlined text: "The fragile alliance preserved (at a terrible cost to Poland) at the Yalta Conference . . . "

Poles to this day feel that President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill betrayed Poland by 'giving' Stalin the eastern third of Poland. Hearing the news, 30 Polish officers and men who had fought under British command committed suicide. Yalta also gave Stalin a free hand to impose communism in Poland and create the People's Republic of Poland.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yalta_Conference

PROPOSED ADDITIONAL TOPICS

HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY, FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM

16. Neminem Captivabimus (equivalent of habeas corpus): "In 1430 King Wladyslaw II Jagiello of Poland granted the Privilege of Jedlnia, which proclaimed, *Neminem captivabimus nisi iure victum* ('We will not imprison anyone except if convicted by law'). This revolutionary innovation in civil libertarianism gave Polish citizens due process-style rights that did not exist in any other European country for another 250 years."
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Habeas_corpus#Poland

17. The Warsaw Confederation ("1573 ... extended religious tolerance to nobility and free persons within the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth ... is the first such document in Europe. While it did not prevent all conflict based on religion, it did make the Commonwealth a much safer and more tolerant place than most of contemporaneous Europe")
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warsaw_Confederation
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toleration#The_Warsaw_Confederation

18. Henrician Articles, 1573 ("a permanent contract between the "Polish nation" (i.e., the szlachta (nobility) of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth) and a newly elected king upon his election to the throne that stated the fundamental principles of governance and constitutional law in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth ... The articles functioned, essentially, as a first constitution for Poland until the Constitution of May 3, 1791")
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henrician_Articles

19. Constitution of May 3, 1791. "Europe's first codified national constitution (and the second oldest in the world, after our own)." Bill Moyers, *Moyers on Democracy,* Anchor Books, New York, 2009, page 68.
http://books.google.com/books?id=f42INaX6uX8C&pg=PA68
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitution_of_May_3,_1791

20. Chopin (Polish composer whose polonaises and mazurkas inspired the Poles in their fight for freedom)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frédéric_Chopin#Polish_heritage

21. Witold Pilecki (the only known person to volunteer to be imprisoned in Auschwitz, from which he sent out reports on the German plans for genocide as early as 1941)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Witold_Pilecki
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Witold's_Report
http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/biography/Witold_Pilecki.html

22. Jan Karski (twice smuggled into the Warsaw Ghetto created by the Germans, and carried information about the Holocaust to the Allies and presented it to, among others, President Roosevelt on July 28, 1943)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jan_Karski
http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/biography/karski.html
http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/righteous/stories/karski.asp

23. Warsaw Uprising (1944 uprising against the Germans that resulted in the death of about 200,000 civilians and the destruction of the entire city. To be distinguished from the 1943 uprising in the ghetto

created by the Nazis in Warsaw to hold Jews.)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warsaw_Uprising

CALIFORNIANS OF POLISH DESCENT

24. Felix Wierzbicki ("published in San Francisco the first English-language book printed in California")
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Felix_Wierzbicki
https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/view/8899341/feliks-pawel-wierzbicki-in-california-the-polish-club

25. Col. James C. Zabriskie ("drew up the first city charter for Sacramento and was elected the first City Attorney") See "Another Pioneer Gone" at top of p. 3, third column:
http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=d&d=SDU18830712.1.3&e=-------en--20--1--txt-txIN------#

26. Dr. John Strentzel (horticulture and viticulture pioneer)
http://www.nps.gov/jomu/forteachers/upload/Dr-John-Strentzel.doc
http://vault.sierraclub.org/john_muir_exhibit/people/john_strentzel.aspx
http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=d&d=SDU18590126.2.18.6# (top of 5th column, "Vineyards of Contra Costa")

27. Helena Modrzejewska Modjeska ("America's most distinguished Shakespearean actress of the 1880s and 1890s")
http://www.helenamodjeska.net/
http://ocparks.com/historic/modjeska/
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helena_Modjeska

28. Pola Negri ("the first European film star to be invited to Hollywood, and became one of the most popular actresses in American silent film")
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pola_Negri
http://www.polanegri.com/bio.htm
http://www.nytimes.com/1987/08/03/movies/pola-negri-a-vamp-of-the-silent-screen-dies-at-88.html
http://articles.latimes.com/keyword/pola-negri

29. Ralph Modrzejewski Modjeski, son of Helena Modrzejewska Modjeska ("Modjeski was world-famous as a designer of bridges and rail lines. He pioneered suspension bridges. He built nearly 40 bridges spanning the great rivers of North America. He trained succeeding generations of American bridge designers and builders, including Joseph B. Strauss, designer of San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge (which was completed six months after Modjeski's San Francisco – Oakland Bay Bridge").
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ralph_Modjeski

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